



**CHAMPIONS OF THE ENVIRONMENT**  
**2003-2004 GRANT APPLICATION**  
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Champions of the Environment is sponsored by INTERNATIONAL PAPER, INVISTA, WIS-TV, and SC Department of Health and Environmental Control. The goal of Champions of the Environment is to promote environmental education activities throughout the State of South Carolina. The program is open to South Carolina's K-12 teachers, students and others involving K-12 students in environmental activities.

If you have a project or program that helps the environment and increases environmental knowledge and awareness in your community, and requires funding outside of your normal resources, please consider applying to Champions of the Environment. Grants will support materials and equipment associated with your project. Student grant recipients who have developed their environmental activities independently may choose to use their award for future educational expenses.

**Champions of the Environment Annual Awards Ceremony**

The Annual Champions of the Environment Awards Ceremony is held at the end of the school year at the South Carolina State Museum in Columbia. The top three environmental education projects of the year will be chosen from the pool of monthly grant recipients. Awards will be distributed as follows:

**Champions of the Environment.....\$5,000**  
**Second Place project.....\$3,000**  
**Third Place Project.....\$2,000**

## **Champions of the Environment Monthly Grant Program**

Monthly grant recipients will receive a one-time award of \$500 intended for materials and equipment to improve and expand environmental education activities. This competitive grant program is open to all of South Carolina's K-12 teachers, students and others educating K-12 students outside of a school setting. Eligible environmental projects can be individual or a group of any size.

Applications are accepted every month of the school year. One \$500 grant will be awarded each month of the school year. Student grant recipients who have developed their environmental activities independently may use their award for future educational expenses. Grant recipients will also receive Champions t-shirts and will be featured on the Champions web page. In addition, a 30 second TV spot highlighting the grant recipient's project will air on WIS-TV for approximately one month. In return, we ask grant recipients to share the knowledge and expertise gained from conducting their project with local students, teachers, and other interested parties.

Applications must be received by the 25<sup>th</sup> day of each month to be considered for a grant award for the following month. Applications not selected will be held over for the duration of the school year and will automatically be considered for a grant award in subsequent months. There is no need to apply more than once per academic year.

A portfolio of materials submitted will be kept for each application. Additions to the portfolio are accepted at any time. Any additions submitted will be considered at the first monthly meeting after the additions are received. Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit updates of your project including pictures, videos, newspaper or newsletter articles, and other examples of your project that may allow the committee to more effectively evaluate your entry. Digital pictures and other information can be emailed to Lynne LaSalle at [lasalli@dhec.sc.gov](mailto:lasalli@dhec.sc.gov). You can also call (803) 898-4394 or fax (803) 898-2893.

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## **CHAMPIONS OF THE ENVIRONMENT 2003-2004 GRANT APPLICATION**

The following criteria must be met by applicants to receive a monthly grant award and/or an overall award.

1. Complete the Champions of the Environment Application and Information sheet.
2. Write a brief description of the project (maximum 2 pages) addressing the following:
  - a. Project Summary including:
    1. Summary statement – provide an overview of your project that explains your goals and objectives. This should be a very basic explanation that will provide the reviewing committee with an understanding of the purpose and expected outcomes of your project.
    2. Financial need – describe how you will use the \$500 monthly grant if your project is selected. Applicants will provide a detailed summary of their proposed budget.
  - b. Project Description – describe precisely what your project will achieve – why, how, when, with what, and who will benefit. Applicants are strongly encouraged to submit photos, videos, or other materials that will help the selection committee gain a better understanding of your project.
  - c. Dissemination of information – Grant recipients will be required to share the knowledge and experiences gained from conducting this project with other interested parties in their areas, such as teachers, administrators, the general public, or environmental educators. This requirement can be satisfied by presenting your project to other teachers at a district in-service training, creating a web page to share information with other educators via the internet, or writing a newsletter article for use in applicable environmental and educational publications. Other creative methods of disseminating information will also be considered. Describe how you plan to share the environmental knowledge gained through this project and the audience you intend to address (teachers, students, general public, etc).
3. Conduct the project and submit the results to Champions of the Environment within one calendar year of notification of award.
4. Agree to disseminate information by presenting the results of your project to other educators in your area or at district in-service training.
5. Agree to attend events including, but not limited to, the Champions Kick-Off, WIS-TV interviews, Champions Awards Ceremony, etc.
6. Agree to expend grant award to implement/perform project as indicated in the grant application and proposal.

Eligible expenses include supplies, materials, equipment, printing, incidental travel expenses, etc. Students who develop environmental education activities independently can also use award money to pay for future educational expenses. Funds cannot be used to pay for food or certain promotional items. These funds are not intended for student travel such as field trips or for the personal gain of the project director.

Awards will be based on the recommendation of the Champions of the Environment Awards Committee. Announcement of the award recipients will be made by on a monthly basis throughout the school year. The committee will read, rate, and determine the recipients of the awards. Each section is weighted equally. The ratings will be based on the following criteria:

- a. originality of project
- b. activities clearly stated
- c. realistic plan of action
- d. education/outreach component (dissemination of information)
- e. proposed resources/expenditures appropriate

# **CHAMPIONS OF THE ENVIRONMENT**

## **2003-2004 GRANT APPLICATION**

Mailing Address: **Champions of the Environment**  
**DHEC – Bureau of Water**  
**2600 Bull Street**  
**Columbia, SC 29201**

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Please check the correct box: ☐ I am a Teacher of K-12 students in South Carolina.  
☐ I am a Student in grades K-12 in South Carolina.  
☐ I educate K-12 students in South Carolina outside of a school setting.

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Proposal Title \_\_\_\_\_

Grade Level \_\_\_\_\_

Number of students involved \_\_\_\_\_ Number of staff involved \_\_\_\_\_

Project Coordinator \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

(Please list the names and addresses of others involved with this project on back of this form.)

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School/Work Name \_\_\_\_\_

School District \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Fax # \_\_\_\_\_

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Teachers who receive a grant award will be expected to disseminate the environmental knowledge and experiences gained through this project with other interested parties in your area, such as teachers, administrators, the general public, or environmental educators (see 2-c on previous page). *Do you agree to share the knowledge and expertise gained from this grant-funded project if selected?*

- ☐ Yes  
☐ No
- 

If our project is chosen, we agree to abide by the criteria as set in the guidelines accompanying this application:

Signature of Project Coordinator \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
or Student Applicant

Signature of School Administrator \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
(teacher applicants only)